

everything, we were not compelled to raise our dues. The special war tax levied by the Council was responded to most heartily and served to meet the crisis in our finances. For the first time in many years the State Medical Society is out of debt at the end of the fiscal year and has in actual cash more than \$2000 to its credit. This showing has been achieved by good management in the office and in economy in the workings of the Society, and yet we have not sacrificed efficiency to this economy.

The position of Secretary to the Society in the past was filled by one man, who was Secretary and Editor. By a ruling of the Council that office is now divided into three portions: the Secretary having charge only of the administrative work of the Society, while the Journal is run by the Editor, Dr. A. C. Reed, whose functions are distinct and apart from those of the administrative office. Moreover, the Council, through its Publicity Bureau, has recently established the position of Managing Editor to the Journal, which is filled by the appointment of Celestine J. Sullivan. The functions of this office deal with matters of public health problems, publicity and the advertising business of the Journal. These three men are paid a nominal salary, which in the aggregate amounts to less than that paid our late Secretary, Dr. Jones. On the other hand, we have increased the salaries of our clerks in the office somewhat proportionate to the general cost of living, and through a process of simplification and systematizing we have reduced the number of workers from five to three. With all these changes, our central office is running most efficiently and smoothly. The utmost harmony prevails and we feel that we are giving the service to the Society which is adequate and required by our members.

In the events of the past year nothing has arisen of more importance than the birth of the League for the Conservation of Public Health. This organization is a definite offspring from the Publicity Bureau, and, although membership is voluntary and it is largely composed of men who belong to the State Medical Society, it is, nevertheless, a distinct and separate organization and its purposes are different from those of the State Medical Society. It fills a place which the State Medical Society is unable to fill. It deals with the larger problems of industrial medicine, public policy and medical propaganda, and as Secretary of our Society I am authorized by the Council to urge your utmost support of this organization.

I also wish to call your attention to another voluntary association under the jurisdiction of the State Medical Society, the Indemnity Defense Fund. This has proved itself a most valuable adjunct to our legal protection. This fund now consists of 468 members, and no assessments have been levied for the past three years. The original capital with which we started is absolutely intact, and no adverse judgments have been rendered against members of this fund. The only thing necessary to make it a complete success is a larger number of subscribers. Send in your application at once and a check for \$30. This will probably carry you for a number of years without further assessment, and it indemnifies you should you meet with an adverse judgment in a suit for alleged malpractice.

Of the work which our members have done in the past great war there is little to be said, because there is so much that might be said. The medical profession again has proved its altruism and its devotion to humanity. We have sacrificed everything, regardless of age, position and family ties, and we have not served in a bombproof branch of the service. The medical officers and Red Cross nurses have been targets of the enemy's hatred. In spite of these things, we have done our duty. Many have served and died in the cause. To them all reverence and honor.

The question often arises and is voiced by our members, "What is the use of the State Medical Society? What good do we do?" This question can be answered unequivocally. The State Medical Society does stimulate the scientific advancement of the profession; it does bind the mutual interests of its members; it does protect against the unjust attacks of the maligner and the black-mailer. The State Medical Society does uphold the standards of medical training; it does promote and protect medical laws and regulating acts. It stands for what is best in the profession and is its standard bearer in the eyes of the public. It now proposes to render better organized and more efficient service to the public, through its subsidiary body, the League for the Conservation of Public Health. In this, as in all things, medicine again places itself at the service of humanity. It only asks that it may be permitted to prevent sickness and misery, to cure disease where that is possible, to relieve suffering where nothing else will do, to help solve the problems of industry and civilization, and to yield its quota for human betterment.

BARBAT PRIZE.

The President then called upon Fitch C. E. Mattison, Chairman of the Committee on the award of the prize offered by J. Henry Barbat, President of the Society during the year 1917.

Dr. Mattison stated that the Committee had decided that the paper of Dr. Karl F. Meyer, entitled "Experimental Typhoid Carriers," was most worthy of consideration, and the Committee was unanimous in its opinion that the prize be awarded to Dr. Meyer.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Adoption of Amendments to the Constitution

The President then made the announcement that the adoption of amendments to the Constitution of the Medical Society of the State of California proposed at the Forty-seventh Annual Meeting of that body, held at Del Monte, April, 1918, were now in order.

The Secretary read each of the proposed amendments, as follows:

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERS.

Section 1. Members—The Members of the Society shall be the members of the component county medical societies, excluding associate or honorary members thereof.

Sec. 2. Guests—Any distinguished scientist, associate or honorary member of any component county society, or any physician not a resident of this State, may become a guest during any Annual Meeting on invitation of the President or the officers of this Society, and shall be accorded the privilege of participating in all of the scientific work for that meeting. The President shall announce to the general meeting the names of such persons as have been invited to attend the meeting, and their names shall then be enrolled as guests of that annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House of Delegates shall be the legislative body of the Society, and shall consist of (1) Delegates elected by the component county societies, (2) the Councilors, and (3) ex-officio, the President and Secretary of the Society.

ARTICLE V.

MEETINGS.

Section 1. The regular meetings of this Society shall be held annually.

Sec. 2. Special meetings of the House of Delegates may be convened as the By-Laws provide.

Sec. 3. Twenty-five members shall constitute a quorum in the House of Delegates.

Sec. 4. The election of officers shall be the first order of business of the House of Delegates at the second evening session of each annual meeting.

Sec. 5. All officers shall be elected by ballot, and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VI.

OFFICERS.

Section 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, a President-elect, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, and fifteen Councilors, of whom one shall be elected from each of the nine Councilor districts and six at large, two of whom shall be elected from the County of Los Angeles, one from the City and County of San Francisco, one from the County of Alameda, and two from the remainder of the State. Not more than three Councilors shall be elected from any one Councilor district. These officers shall be elected by the House of Delegates at the time and in the manner duly provided in this Constitution and By-Laws.

Sec. 2. The officers, except the Councilors, shall be elected annually. The terms of the elected Councilors shall be for three years, those first elected serving one, two and three years, as may be arranged.

Sec. 3. The Society shall elect a President for the next succeeding year, who shall remain President-elect for one year preceding his assumption of the office of President. While President-elect he shall be ex-officio a member of the Council.

Sec. 4. No delegates shall be eligible to any office named in the preceding section, except that of Councilor, and no person shall be elected to any such office who has not been a member of the Society for the past two years.

ARTICLE VII.

COUNCIL.

The Council shall consist of the Councilors and the President, the President-elect and the Secretary, ex-officio. Besides its duties mentioned in the By-Laws, it shall constitute the Finance Committee of the House of Delegates. Five Councilors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX.

FUNDS AND EXPENSES.

Funds shall be raised by an equal per capita assessment on each component society. The amount of the assessment shall be fixed by the House of Delegates by a four-fifths vote thereof. The fiscal year of the Society shall be from January 1st to December 31st. The number of members in good standing in each component society on the first day of March of each year shall be taken as the basis for the assessment for that fiscal year, as fixed by the House of Delegates. Funds may also be raised by voluntary contributions from the Society's publications, and in any other manner approved by the House of Delegates. Funds may be appropriated by the House of Delegates to defray the expenses of the Society, for publications and for such other purposes as will promote the welfare of the profession.

ARTICLE XI.

THE SEAL.

The Society shall have a common seal, with such inscription thereon as the Council shall prescribe.

ARTICLE XII.

AMENDMENTS.

The House of Delegates may amend any article of this Constitution by a two-thirds vote of the Delegates present at any annual meeting, provided that such amendment shall have been presented in open meeting at the previous annual meeting, and that it shall have been published twice during the year in the Journal of this Society, or sent officially to each component society for at least two months before the meeting at which final action is to be taken.

On the motion of H. Bert Ellis, duly seconded by C. G. Kenyon, each of the said amendments was adopted, and the Constitution as thus amended was adopted as a whole by the House of Delegates.

NEW BUSINESS.

The President then announced that any resolutions presented to the House of Delegates for its consideration would be referred to the Reference Committee, and that this Committee after careful deliberation would report to the House of Delegates at the Second Session, Wednesday evening, April 16. Resolutions were then presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. I.

Presented by the Council of the Medical Society:

Amend the By-Laws, Article II, Section 1 thereof, by striking out the word "third" in the second line thereof and inserting in lieu the word "second"; and by striking out the word "April".